



**U.S. AGENCY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
DEMOCRACY, CONFLICT, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE (DCHA)
OFFICE OF U.S. FOREIGN DISASTER ASSISTANCE (OFDA)**

BURUNDI – Complex Emergency

Situation Report #2, Fiscal Year (FY) 2002

June 20, 2002

Note: this situation report updates the Situation Report #1 for FY 2002 dated March 15, 2002

BACKGROUND

The Tutsi minority, which represents 14 percent of Burundi's 6.85 million population, has dominated the country politically, militarily, and economically since national independence in 1962. Approximately 85 percent of Burundi's population is Hutu, and approximately 1 percent is Batwa. The current cycle of violence began in October 1993 when members within the Tutsi-dominated army assassinated the first freely elected President, Melchoir Ndadaye (Hutu), sparking Hutu-Tutsi fighting. Ndadaye's successor Cyprien Ntariyama (Hutu) was killed in a plane crash on April 6, 1994 alongside Rwandan President Habyarimana. Sylvestre Ntibantunganya (Hutu) took power and served as President until July 1996, when a military coup brought current President Pierre Buyoya (Tutsi) to power. Since the conflict began, over 200,000 people have been killed.

In August 2000, nineteen Burundi parties signed the Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in Arusha, Tanzania, overseen by peace process facilitator, former South African President Nelson Mandela. The Arusha Peace Accords include provisions for an ethnically balanced army and legislature, and for democratic elections to take place after three years of transitional government. The three-year transition period began on November 1, 2001. President Pierre Buyoya will serve as President for the first 18 months, followed by a Hutu president for the second half of the transition. The two main Hutu opposition groups, the Forces for the Defense of Democracy (FDD) and the National Liberation Front (FNL), are not party to the Arusha Peace Accords. Seven months after the installation of the transitional government a cease-fire agreement has not been reached between the rebels and the Burundian government although talks related to cease-fire negotiations continue.

Clashes between rebel and government forces continue regularly around the capital, Bujumbura, and sporadically across the country, sometimes prompting temporary population movements. Approximately 845,000 Burundians have fled the country, most of whom are located in Tanzania, with others living in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Rwanda and Zambia. On March 28, 2002, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) implemented a voluntary repatriation program for the return of refugees from Tanzania.

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE		SOURCE
Internally Displaced	Total: 475,509 - 375,509 in 212 sites countrywide	Norwegian Refugee Council February 2002
Refugees from Burundi	Total: 845,000 - 820,000 in Tanzania - 20,000 in DRC - 2,000 in Zambia - 2,000 in Rwanda - 1,000 in Zimbabwe	U.S. Committee for Refugees February 2002
Refugees in Burundi	Total: 26,000 - 25,000 from the DRC (12/31/01) - 1,000 from other countries (12/31/01)	U.S. Committee for Refugees February 2002
Repatriated Refugees	Total: 46,396 - 6,830 in 2000 - 27,866 (estimate) in 2001 - 22,914 (6/10/02)	UNHCR June 2002

Total FY 2002 USAID Humanitarian Assistance to Burundi \$11,681,500
Total FY 2002 State/PRM Humanitarian Assistance to Burundi \$1,240,000
Total FY 2002 USG Assistance to Burundi \$12,921,500

CURRENT SITUATION

Promoting the Peace Process: Cease-fire talks have produced few concrete results and remain in a preliminary stage. On April 27-28 Jean Pierre Nkurunziza's FDD faction and the Burundian government met in Pretoria, South Africa. The Burundian government held peace talks in Pretoria, South Africa between May 21 and 31 with Jean-Bosco Ndayikengurukiye's FDD faction. Government negotiators stated that the talks had moved forward. The other FDD faction led by Jean Pierre Nkurunziza met with Tanzanian officials in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from May 28-June 3 to discuss the peace process.

The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) visited the Great Lakes region between April 27 and May 7. Among its recommendations the UNSC mission promoted a dialogue between all of the parties. The UNSC also called for an immediate cessation of hostilities to support the peace process, a view shared by all of the regional governments. The head of the UNSC mission, French Ambassador Levitte, met with opposition groups on April 29 and advocated for a cease-fire, calling for the opposition to join the peace process.

The South Africans sent 700 military personnel to Burundi in November 2001 to act as a Special Protection Unit to protect returning opposition leaders participating in the transitional government inaugurated November 1, 2001. The South Africans plan to stay in Burundi for at least a year. The peace agreement calls for an all-Burundian force to help safeguard opposition leaders.

Continuing Insecurity: Although cease-fire negotiations continue, fighting has intensified this year in Bujumbura Rural, Makamba, Ruyigi, and Bubanza provinces.

Continuing military operations have displaced more than 84,000 people in Bujumbura Rural since January 2002. Sporadic fighting around Bujumbura continues. In two incidents, on June 4 and June 5 respectively, FNL rebels reportedly attacked a military post on the outskirts of Bujumbura and the FDD performed a mortar attack on Bujumbura, reportedly injuring six people. On May 22, 11 people, including the senator representing the Batwa ethnic group in the National Assembly, were killed during an FNL ambush near the capital. On May 19, the bishop of Ruyigi province was abducted outside the capital by FDD rebels and his two bodyguards were killed. He was subsequently released unharmed on May 23. On May 4 and 5, Hutu rebels reportedly killed 16 people near Bujumbura, mostly civilians, and on May 8 rebel forces outside of Bujumbura killed ten civilians.

On April 6, 21 civilians were killed in Bubanza province during an attack by government forces on a home where rebels were believed to be hiding.

In April, ongoing fighting between government forces and FNL rebels displaced approximately 40,000 people from Kibuye, southeast of Bujumbura, to Rushubi, about 20 km east of the capital, and 56 civilians were killed during the attacks. Approximately 31,500 IDPs are still in place and receiving humanitarian assistance. Access to the area has been sporadic because of insecurity.

The province of Bubanza is in Phase IV United Nations security level (program suspension) and the town of Bubanza had been in Phase III (relocation). However, due to six rebel attacks in six months on the town of Bubanza, the U.N. changed the security phase for the town of Bubanza from phase III, to phase IV. In Phase IV the U.N. recommends that only emergency, humanitarian relief, and security programs operate. The U.N. continues to designate the following ten provinces at phase III security: Kirundo, Muyinga, Cankuzo, Ruyigi, Karuzi, Ngozi, Kayanza, Muramvya, Mwaro and Gitega. Six provinces are in Phase IV security: Citiboke, Bubanza, Bujumbura Rural, Bururi, Makamba and Rutana.

Improvements in Health and Nutrition: The overall nutritional situation has improved from the high malnutrition rates experienced at the end of 2000 and early 2001. Recorded malaria cases declined from 700,000 cases in November 2000 to 153,442 in March 2002. The United Nations Children's Educational Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO) launched a Roll Back Malaria campaign in Gitega, Mwaro, Kirundo and Muyinga provinces on April 25. With USAID/OFDA assistance, UNICEF provided 200 drug kits for 300,000 vulnerable people in Kayanza, Ruyigi, Ngozi, Kirundo, Cibitoke and Makamba provinces, enabling increased access to quality curative and preventive health services. On June 17, UNICEF started the first of two nationwide vaccination campaigns for measles, vitamin A, and polio, targeting 90 percent of the population between the age of nine months and 14 years (an estimated three million children). The next campaign scheduled for July 23-26, will provide the second polio vaccination. The Ministry of Health (MOH) estimates that 54 percent of deaths in children 9 months to 14 years of age are due to measles.

UNICEF reports that children are among the worst affected by the continuing war and the high prevalence of HIV/AIDS and other diseases, which have resulted in more than 600,000 orphans. More than 180,000 children are living in IDP camps and 194,000 are in refugee camps in Tanzania. It is estimated that approximately 14,000 children were forced into the Burundian army, and an unidentified number have been forced to serve with the opposition militia groups.

The incidence of malnutrition continues to decrease with the numbers of beneficiaries in supplementary feeding centers (SFC) declining by 12 percent from January to March 2002, and the number of patients in therapeutic feeding centers (TFC) declining by 28 percent during the same period. Despite this improvement, UNICEF reports that years of poverty, conflict, drought and food shortages have left 50 percent of children suffering from chronic malnutrition. UNICEF has been working with the MOH to develop more effective management of malnutrition within the current governmental framework. USAID/OFDA is providing a \$1.5 million grant to UNICEF for the development of an integrated nutrition system within the MOH as well as other health interventions.

Improvements in Food Security: The food security situation has improved following increased rainfall, but the poorest households remain at risk. Food security issues remain a concern in Cankuzo, Ruyigi, Rutana, Makamba and Bujumbura Rural provinces, and in all the areas bordering the Kibira forest. Ngozi, Bururi, Gitega, Karuzi, Kirundo, Muyinga, and most parts of Murawvya, Kayanza, Cibitoke and Bubanza provinces are considered relatively safe. The UN World Food Program (WFP) supplied more than 1,363 metric tons (MT) of emergency food assistance to approximately 168,000 vulnerable people and IDPs through targeted distributions during the first two weeks of April. Between April 15 and 28, in collaboration with CARE and World Vision (WV), WFP distributed 2,076 MT of emergency food assistance targeting approximately 256,109 vulnerable people in Kayanza, Karuzi, Bujumbura Rural and Cibitoke provinces. In May, WFP provided 3,978 MT of emergency food assistance through targeted distributions that assisted 477,325 vulnerable populations in food insecure areas (12 out of 17 provinces).

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) distributed 2,475 MT of bean seeds (averaging 15 kg/family), and 1,755 kg of vegetable seeds and 127,474 farm implements, to 175,270 families throughout Burundi during the 2002 (B) harvest season.

Floods Strain Fragile Humanitarian Situation: Between April 29 and May 6, the Mutimbuzi river flooded three times in the Buterere district of Bujumbura, displacing more than 6,000 people, destroying 235 houses in the area and flooding surrounding agricultural fields. The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN OCHA) reported that this was the worst flooding caused by a build up of debris in the canals that feed into the river, coupled with heavy rains. The displaced population found shelter in schools and with family members, while humanitarian organizations, including WFP, provided assistance.

Fears of New Regroupement in Ruyigi: As fighting continues, humanitarian access to vulnerable populations is hampered by insecurity. Fighting between government soldiers and opposition forces, which started on April 27 in Ruyigi province, prevented relief workers from reaching approximately 32,000 IDPs living in Nyabitsinda and Muhwazi communes. UN OCHA reported that a local NGO in the area had registered some 500 malnourished people. WFP started delivering 279 MT of food, as well as non-food items, to the area on June 4—providing a 15-day ration to each family consisting of maize, pulses and cooking oil. On June 3, U.N. agencies reached an agreement with the Government of Burundi (GOB) to open a humanitarian corridor for the delivery of humanitarian assistance starting on June 4-6.

The Group of the Framework for the Protection of IDPs, which includes the GOB, UN OCHA and the humanitarian community, met on June 7. The Ministers of Defense, Repatriation, Reinstallation of Refugees, Interior, Health and Human Rights, and U.N. representatives discussed regroupement issues and the need for better communication between the government, the army, and the population, and advocated for the inclusion of the humanitarian community. The GOB informed the meeting participants that the IDP population in Ruyigi province left the regrouped site and returned home. USAID/OFDA is providing \$150,000 to the office of the UN Humanitarian Coordinator who oversees this forum along with UN OCHA.

Refugee Return: UNHCR reported that under the voluntary repatriation of refugees program started on March 28, 2002, approximately 22,914 refugees have returned, with another 71,000 registered to return home. This includes 12,862 voluntarily facilitated returns through the northern entry point of Kobera in Muyinga province, and 10,052 who returned spontaneously, through Muyinga and two other entry points in the southern and eastern provinces (Ruyigi and Makamba). UNHCR has declared the eastern and southern provinces too insecure for facilitated returns.

To assist refugees who want to return home, UNHCR has organized two convoys per week from Tanzania through the Kobero entry point in Muyinga province. Burundians who return with the facilitated convoys are transported to transit centers, registered, and provided with a returnee package that includes three months of WFP food aid and non-food items such as blankets and cooking utensils. Refugees are transported to the areas where they previously resided. Those who return outside of the UNHCR-facilitated program, and who return their ration card, are also given the three-month returnee package. UNHCR is also providing special assistance to unaccompanied children and at risk individuals.

While transporting returnees from Tanzania on June 11, 41 refugees were killed and another 38 injured during a road accident. As a result, UNHCR will no longer provide transportation for those returning to the provinces of Ruyigi and Makamba.

UNHCR has conducted monitoring activities in Muyinga (Muyinga province) and Giteranyi (Kirundo province), communes that have received the largest number of returnees. While acknowledging that their assessment is not comprehensive, interviews with 53 returnee families indicated that 98 percent found the security situation good, 96 percent had access to their land, and 87 percent said that they had good relationships with their neighbors and the authorities. UNHCR will be issuing monthly reports on the repatriation process.

According to UN OCHA, the rate of spontaneous returns to Ruyigi province has increased from 300 refugees arriving per week prior to May 31, to 100-500 persons arriving each day during the first week in June—totaling 2,027 spontaneous returns from May 31-June 8. The governor of Ruyigi reported that the situation was calm, but appealed for additional food and non-food humanitarian assistance. UNHCR is not facilitating returns from Tanzania to Ruyigi because of continuing insecurity.

The GOB and UNHCR jointly initiated the voluntary transfer of some 3,000 Congolese refugees (called Banyamulenge) of Tutsi origin, to a unified refugee camp in Gasorwe Commune, Muyinga province, but are meeting some resistance from the Banyamulenge refugees who are concerned about their security in Muyinga province. On May 27, 518 refugees were transferred to Muyinga province from the transit camps where they had been living, and received food and non-food assistance from UNHCR. On June 4, League Iteka, a Burundian human rights group, reported that 1,000 refugees were refusing to transfer to the new relocation site. Security concerns arise from the proximity of the camp to Rwanda and Tanzania, the history of fighting, and the deportation earlier this year of 18 Banyamulenge refugees to Rwanda. The transfer was initiated by the GOB because the transit centers were no longer sustainable. The transit camps will be closed once all of the refugees are transferred to Muyinga, and assistance will no longer be available to those choosing to remain in the area.

The U.S. Committee for Refugees (USCR) visited refugee camps in Tanzania and Burundi from April 15 to May 17, and reported that most of the voluntary repatriation has been to northeastern Burundi. USCR stated that more than half of the refugees registered with UNHCR to return home originate from provinces still afflicted by conflict, and that the security and humanitarian conditions are not yet conducive to large-scale refugee repatriation. Representatives from the State Department's Bureau for Population, Refugees,

and Migration (State/PRM) visited refugee camps and returnee areas on a separate visit.

Contingency Planning in Insecure Areas: In cooperation with the GOB Ministry of Human Rights, in May, an inter-agency mission that included UNICEF, UN OCHA, and NGOs working in the region established provincial contingency plans to respond to humanitarian crisis in Cankuzo and Ruyigi provinces, which have a history of fighting, displacement and limited access. UNICEF established the pre-positioning of emergency stocks. UN OCHA will update the Contingency Plan for Burundi by the end of June.

During the same period, the Follow-Up Group of the Framework for the Protection of IDPs held meetings with local governments and military officials to disseminate the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and develop specific protection guidelines.

International Assistance for Burundi: The United Nations released its Consolidated Inter-Agency Appeal (CAP) for Burundi on November 26, 2001 and requested \$107,865,224 from the international community. The U.N.'s mid-year status report issued on May 23, revised funding requirements to \$68,887,974, of which 23.9 percent had been met. The CAP seeks to provide humanitarian and rehabilitation assistance to beneficiaries in Burundi, as well as to develop programs that promote sustainable socio-economic development, such as preventative health care and peace education activities.

On April 2, the Government of Germany announced the resumption of humanitarian assistance to Burundi, after a nine-year hiatus, for projects involving the reintegration of Burundian refugees, HIV/AIDS-related activities, and rural water supply projects.

USG HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

USAID/OFDA's program in Burundi has four components: support for an integrated humanitarian response which combines nutrition, food security, and emergency health activities; coordination of humanitarian assistance; maintenance of contingency stocks to respond to rapid-onset emergency needs; and improved security for humanitarian personnel. To date in FY 2002, USAID/OFDA has provided \$8.3 million in humanitarian assistance. In more stable areas of the country, USAID/OFDA is assisting partners to transition from emergency humanitarian assistance to developmental relief activities.

USAID's Office of Transition Initiatives (USAID/OTI) is supporting two programs in Burundi. The Legislative Strengthening Program includes member orientation (for both National Assembly and Senate members), public outreach activities, as well as work with committees, to be implemented through the

National Democratic Institute and the International Republican Institute (NDI/IRI). The Burundi Initiative for Peace (BIP) implemented through the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES) will provide a series of small grants to encourage popular support for the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Accords. The small grants program will work in targeted geographic areas to support activities that maintain the momentum for peace. OTI's Country Representative is now stationed in Bujumbura. The total budget for the OTI program in FY 2002 is \$2 million.

USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP) is supporting WFP's Regional Protracted Relief and Recovery Operation (PRRO) in the Great Lakes, which targets 1.12 million vulnerable people in Burundi. Through its activities, WFP contributes to improving and maintaining the nutritional status of refugees, IDPs, returnees and other vulnerable persons, and promoting the recovery and rehabilitation of livelihoods at the household and community level. To date in FY 2002, USAID/FFP has provided 3,860 MT of P.L. 480 Title II emergency food commodities consisting of corn, pulses and corn-soy blend to WFP for the Burundi portion of the Great Lakes program, valued at \$1.4 million.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has not provided emergency food commodities in FY 2002.

The State Department's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) has contributed \$1,240,000 to UNHCR to support its refugees programs inside Burundi.

U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO BURUNDI

<i>Agency</i>	<i>Implementing Partner</i>	<i>Sector</i>	<i>Provinces</i>	<i>Amount</i>
FY 2002				
USAID				\$11,681,500
USAID/OFDA				\$8,315,000
	CRS	Non-food items	All	\$294,640
	International Medical Corps	Nutrition/health	Kirundo, Muyinga, Rutuna	\$1,066,471
	International Rescue Committee	Health, water/sanitation	Bujumbura Rural, Makamba, Rutana	\$800,000
	Medecins sans Frontieres/Belgium	Health programs	Karuzi	\$299,450
	Medecins sans Frontieres/Belgium	Nutritional programs	Bujumbura Rural and Karuzi	\$832,552
	UNDP	Coordination program for IDP assistance and protection of vulnerable populations	All	\$150,000
	UNICEF	Health and nutrition programs, health coordination	All	\$500,000
	UNICEF	Nutrition/health/coordination	All	\$1,500,000
	UN OCHA	Coordination of humanitarian activities	All	\$600,000
	UN WFP	Logistics	All	\$675,000
	USAID/OFDA	Administrative support	Bujumbura office	\$527,052
	World Vision Relief and Development	Food Security program	Karuzi	\$1,069,835
USAID/OTI				\$2,000,000
	NDI/IRI IFES	Legislative strengthening, Burundi Initiative For Peace (small grants programming)	All	\$2,000,000
USAID/FFP				\$1,366,500
	World Food Program	3,860 MT of emergency commodities to improve the food security and protect livelihoods of vulnerable groups	All	\$1,366,500
State/PRM				\$1,240,000
	UNHCR	Assistance to Refugees inside Burundi	All	\$1,240,000
Total USG Humanitarian Assistance to Burundi in FY 2002.....				\$12,921,500



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USAID/OFDA bulletins can be obtained from the USAID web site at http://www.usaid.gov/hum_response/ofda/situation.html

